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Letter from H. R. L. to Floride Clemson, 1862 July 22

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Wheatland

A/ .C626.

July 22, 1862.

My dear Floride - You
will think I have almost
taken up my abode in
New York, when I tell you
that I was there, when your
last letter was received.
I was not staying in New
York, but on Staten Island
with Mr & Mrs Henry - who
are pleasantly situated there,
but so near town, that
almost every day some
inducement was offered to
take us to town. Daniel &
Buchanan. I took with me -
& we enjoyed our visit ex-
ceedingly. Since our return
I heard of the arrival of a
young Henry - who I hope will
cheer the poor parents for
the loss of their little boy

Last April - & a sweet body.
bright child he was. It
was the first time I had
stayed any time with James
& Mary since their marriage
although I had been to see
them often - we found them
still in the honeymoon,
though ^{they} have been married
nearly three years.
Of course you have heard
that Mr & Mrs Bingham
have arrived. I was most
agreeably surprised last
week by a visit from
Madame, & her father - she
looks well, but thin - suffered
during the whole voyage
& was so exhausted that
she had to be carried from
the vessel when they arrived
in New York. She has
recovered wonderfully - & is
now as bright & cheerful

as possible - full of interesting
news of her travels. I only
regretted she could stay
with us so short a time -
they were here but a day.
However I shall try to pay
her a visit before she goes
down to W. W. Mr B is there
now & she will go for a little
while next month, but will
not settle there until the
cool weather. She urges me
to visit her there, in the
winter - but as she expects
an heir to the house of
Berghmans in January - &
it would not be pleasant
to be there just before, or
at the time of the arrival
of this important person.
I do not whether this visit
can be arranged - it is
too far off to plan - one knows
not the changes of these
troubled times.

² I should be but too happy
to avail myself of your
kind offer about the letter
to Mrs Ellis. I am annoyed
& unhappy at not letting
her hear from me, & not hearing
from her again - but there
are so many of these malicious
wretches about, who would
be delighted to get hold
of something to use against
my dear Uncle, that on his
account, & his only, I would
not like to send anything
except in a way that is con-
sidered legitimate by our
worthies "in authority." I think
Mrs E will understand this,
& understand why I do not
write - our separation causes
me great unhappiness, for
she is very very dear to me.
Thanks for the vignette, which
is so much prettier than
the full length that I have
concluded to keep it, & return

July 22nd, 1862

as you know
Miss Barton & Kate
are expected here soon, but
I dare say you know all
their movements. Mrs. Bughmans
thinks Mr. Bloudeed has
received his congé, but says
he talks of remaining until
October.
I hope your mother has
entirely recovered, & you
also have got rid of those
ill feelings of which you
complained. - I have not
been quite well since my
return from New York, but
really believe it is the
dreadful state our country
is in, as much as anything
else. I cannot think of the
follies that are committed
daily with any patience
& our whole situation causes
me so much anxiety, that
I try to think of it as little

A
C. B. Blo.

a terrible - that
papers are filled
one theme - & each day
contain a long list of killed
& wounded, it is impossible
not to think.

Uncle is wonderfully well,
has had no rheumatism or
gout for two or three months,
& is growing quite fat.
My love to your mother -
let me hear from you
soon, & believe me always
dear Aloude.

Yours sincerely
& truly H. L.